

## ***Questions & Answers-Conference March 9, 2000***

STRICOM believes that the majority of the questions asked at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Industry conference were answered by the Draft RFP released on 17 March, 00.

Questions that require answers/information outside of the Draft RFP, are answered below. If you feel that your question was overlooked or not completely answered please email your question to

[STOC@STRICOM.Army.MIL](mailto:STOC@STRICOM.Army.MIL).

1. It is my understanding that one of the missions of TRADOC is to provide curriculum, CBT, ADL, Etc. for the army and they have one or more contracting vehicles for that purpose. How does STRICOM see itself relative to that mission and how does the CBT/ADL product area of the Omnibus relate to TRADOC's mission?

[Answer: The product area has been changed to ADL only. STRICOM's Role in ADL will be to satisfy TRADOC's requirements for interactive simulation, which is articulated in the Total Army Distance Learning Plan. In addition, STRICOM will provide ADL support to Major Army Commands, to include the National Guard, Army Reserve, CINC's and other Federal agencies as requested.](#)

2. The ADL product area addresses "instruction via a telecommunication link". Does this mean Internet or Intranet or both?

[Answer: Any Telecommunications Link.](#)

3. When will DO's be coming out after IDIQ award?

[Answer: As requirements are generated.](#)

4. Will the LCCS contractors be permitted to bid as a prime or sub on STOC?

[Answer: Yes](#)

5. Concept of horizontal integration is rational. Method of achieving it via IPTs, Alpha contracting, ACA's, etc. is insufficient from a system engineering perspective. What is likely to occur through these methods are interfaces that are compatible between

given sets of integrable between elements but does nothing to ensure integratibility between couplets. STRICOM needs to define some standards as guidelines to help reach the horizontal connectivity, interoperability, CM goals.

Answer: This contract contains requirements that support HI. As products are developed under the STOC IDIQ contract, the appropriate standards for future integration will be developed under the Delivery/Task Order.

6. On this IDIQ: If STRICOM buys my privately developed products (e.g. COTS/No Gov. or data rights)—Are you saying I have to do ACA and deliver data to LCCS contractors as a result of using this IDIQ to procure?

Answer: All data rights will be negotiated with each Delivery/Task order. ACAs will contain appropriate data rights protection.

7. What is the incentive for the 5 LCCS Contractors to spend weeks of labor (\$) negotiating with 30 separate STOC Primes from now to award.

Answer: ACAs with LCCS contractors will only be required in delivery orders where a product will be fielded and supported by a LCCS contractor.

8. My understanding is that tasks will be issued to qualified contractors teams regardless of the Domain. If the task fits in multiple Domains, will it be issued to all Domains?

Answer: A task that is only within one Domain will be issued in that Domain. A task that crosses several domains can possibly accept proposals from all the affected domains, or it could only accept proposal from the domain where most of the effort will be performed.

9. OK... Schedule does appear aggressive to achieve providing/ establishing a partnership or joint venture within the time period. Will a "Draft Partnership" be considered responsive?

Answer: Any partnership or joint venture would have to be firm enough so that the party signing the offer has the authority to bind the partners or members of the joint venture.

10. If you use composite rates for evaluation for winning then how can winning team change members upon task order RFP if T&M?  
Answer: The new team members would be required to comply with the prime's composite T&M rates.
11. Weapons simulations (Direct Fire, Indirect Fire, NBC, Air Delivered, Etc.) are a key element of all four Domains, yet they do not appear as a specific requirement or evaluation criteria. Appears they have been overlooked or underestimated.  
Answer: Weapon simulations are considered a subset of several of the domains and, therefore could be part of simulations in the virtual, live, constructive, and test instrumentation.
12. If a company has established rates through a GSA Schedule- can this schedule be referenced for the cost proposal?  
Answer: for individual T&M rates, offerors must complete the Cost Summary Format, which will be provided with RFP.
13. Can Primes pick from subs cross-Domain? From other Primes?  
Answer: When task orders are being competed, it is the prime's responsibility to assemble teams capable of performing all work.
14. In which, if any Domain does STRICOM view (electronic performance support systems (EPSS)) a component?  
Answer: If STRICOM has any work in this area, it would be classified within the Advanced Concepts product area.
15. Please explain your emphasis on horizontal integration across domains. This seems to conflict with the emphasis on demonstrating competency in all product areas of a domain.  
Answer: HTI is a methodology that promotes design for reuse, plug-n-play, and interoperabilities. There is no conflict with product areas.

16. Please explain the difference in the constructive domain and the simulations and simulation systems product area.  
Answer: The constructive domain and consists of multiple functions. The simulations and simulation systems are a function (product area) that can take place in multiple domains.
17. 1) Isn't the S&SS a subset of the constructive domain?  
2) Why is the S&SS product in the Virtual Domain?  
Answer: 1. Yes the S&SS is an product area of the constructive domain, and can be an element of several domains. 2. The virtual domain will consist of manned simulators and other items, which can also use the constructive area to complete their simulation. CCTT is a virtual system that uses constructive simulations to complete the electronic battlefield.
18. From the first Industry Day to the draft SOW and today's explanation you have changed emphasis. It was "organize new ways of doing business to get products and services quicker, cheaper, etc." Now the SOW and the metrics will gage business on how will and how have you done business the DoD way. Particularly emphasizing IPT's, teams, processes, etc. "What does the Government want to emphasize-new ways of doing business OR doing business by DoD process?"  
Answer: The first step is to get the Omnibus contract in place, which will allow the government to place projects under contract easier and quicker. At the task order level we will hope to see new and innovative ways of doing specific projects.
19. If a joint venture is 51% owned by a small business does the joint venture qualify as a small business or do the combined size of both members need to be less than the SIC code size?  
Answer: For a joint venture the entities comprising it would each have to be able, on their own, to qualify as a small business.
20. Does the 51% apply to direct labor or total contract/task order value?

Answer: 50 percent of the actual work required to complete a project. Material procured does not constitute actual work. Refer to FAR 52.219-14

21. Mr. Gotlieb said that for Small Business set aside Task Orders—all Small Business can compete—not just the 2 Small Businesses that won IDIQ contracts in the applicable Domain. Did I hear this correctly?

Answer: No. What was said was that all small businesses that have been awarded an Omnibus IDIQ Contract as a prime within the applicable domain could compete.

22. Has STRICOM examined these major &/or minor RFP efforts with an 'eye' to the disadvantage it may cause those Industry teams that are involved? Ex:IEW TPT!

Answer: The Government starts acquisitions as they are required to support it's requirements. We realize that in some cases this may cause some conflicts but find it at times unavoidable.

23. What are you going to talk about at the APBI in April—i.e. What new news will there be to put forth?

Answer: The purpose of the APBI is to alert industry of all possible future work that STRICOM may have.

24. Mitigation Plans—last time you discussed mitigation Plans. Specifically Business Unit vs case by case. Please explain Business Unit and how it applies.

Answer: If your company has a business unit that may bid this effort they could be walled off from the remainder of the company and thus mitigate the conflict of interest.

The case by case in SETA type situations where a SETA contractor may have worked or be working on an effort supporting STRICOM and a Task order for associated work is about to be competed on the Omnibus Contract. Their involvement in the program may exclude them from being able to bid that work. But if a different business unit within the same company wanted to bid the effort and a mitigation plan had been put in place to separate the two units so that no conflict of interest existed, then the separate business unit could bid.

A "business unit" is a concern, whether affiliated with others or not, that controls its own affairs. In a corporation with numerous divisions or cost centers,

a "business unit" is one, which demonstrates and creates its own profits and costs.

25. What happened to the Special Ops Domain?

Answer: After further review and discussion with the STRICOM customer it was determined that all the efforts for SOF could be accomplished in the other domains.

26. Why is TESS not part of the Test- Instrumentation Domain? TESS is a product area where a Small Business could save STRICOM a lot of money & TESS definitely relates to Test & Instrumentation.

Answer: Tactical Engagement Simulation Systems (TESS) consists of MILES type equipment and is part of the Live domain.

27. When or what is the plan for de-scaling ADST II D.O.'s to minimize overlap time once the STOC is awarded?

Answer: The STOC team is keeping the ADST II PM informed and are coordinating efforts with the PM office.

28. OCI's—What type of OCI's are planned for the STOC Procurement?

Answer: There are no OCIs planned for the STOC contract at this time.

29. If not, what guidelines should Industry Primes follow for including SETA sub contractor members?

Answer: The SETA contractors are not excluded from the STOC contract effort. There could be a conflict of interest at the task order level if the SETA contractor were supporting the project office at STRICOM that was competing the Task Order. With regard to the STRICOM SETA contractors see answer 24.

30. Is there a method to verify other company Past Performance ratings with STRICOM? And if yes, can I get this information within 2 weeks?

Answer: No.

31. From a Small Business perspective, we note that while SDB & 8A is mentioned, there are no mentions of hubzone SBC participation. Is this an oversight or intentional?

Answer: The Set Aside awards will be made at the small business level in accordance with the applied SIC codes. Whether the awardees are an 8a, or HUB Zone company will not be a discriminator. Large business Prime awardees will be encouraged to use Small Businesses, Woman owned Small Businesses, 8a, HUB Zone and Disabled Veteran owned companies to satisfy their Small Business content. SDB, 8a or HUB Zone set asides will be done under individual contract competitions and not part of the STOC ID/IQ.

32. When STRICOM wants to utilize a sub contractor, and wants to "Fee Share" (5% to Prime) with the Prime, and allow no Prime T&M effort, does STRICOM assume all the responsibility for the sub contractors effort?

Answer: , STRICOM will only award DOs/Tos to a Prime contractor who is responsible for the DO/TO awarded.

33. How will the 20% Small Business Goal be broken down—across all Business Domains, or will each Lot have a goal of 20%? (It seems that it will be easier to manage and more fair to each Domain if each Lot had a goal of 20%.)

Answer: Each Prime contract award will have a 20% goal.

34. How will STRICOM enforce the 20% goal?

Answer:. A small business subcontracting plan will be submitted by each large business prime contractor on each TO/DO valued over \$500,000. We will utilize DCMC resources to monitor compliance with this goal. Future task/delivery orders may use success in meeting this goal as a past performance factor for those awards.

35. Whose performance rating is directly tied to this goal?

Answer: The Prime Contractor.

36. If two or more companies form a joint venture can the joint venture Prime then establish a Prime/sub contractor team with other companies?

Answer: Yes.

37. Reference: Associate Contractor Agreements—Is this an Evaluation Factor?

Answer: It is a requirement of the IDIQ contract and will be a go/no go at the task order level.

38. Can a Small Business as a sub contractor on a larger team compete for the Small Business set aside Task Orders? If so, then does the Small Business bid on the Task Order without the Prime?

Answer: No.

39. 2) Are there ACA agreements in place between the 5 LCCS contractors?

Answer: No. See answer 7.

40. Will the Government reserve the right to direct a Task Order to a specific, non-small Business, subcontractor or team member?

Answer: No. The government does not normally direct subcontract awards by a prime contractor.

41. Can two companies submit separate proposals for different Domains if they belong to the same corporation?

Answer: Yes.

42. Work Location: Is Orlando office required?

Answer: No not at the IDIQC level. However, it may be required at the Task Order Level.

43. How will the cost proposal for the DO's team be evaluated? Composite or each individual company's rate?

Answer: Based on task order requirements

44. In the Domain/Product matrix: What happened to threats and targets—no longer shown or in SOW?

Answer: In the process of developing the domain/product matrix an attempt was made to minimize the number of product areas for bid purposes. Targets and threat simulators are included in all the product areas

45. What is significance of blanks in Matrix—does that imply product is N/A for that Domain, or merely that Gov't chose not to provide examples.

Answer: For the chart being referenced, a blank under any product area for a Domain indicates that that product area is not applicable. Section L will



contain examples of programs that are applicable to the product area within the Domain.

46. Ref:PP- Does NATO or foreign defense contractor count as DoD or commercial?

Answer: Commercial, unless it is a FMS Case.

47. Is PP at Contract or Task Order level? E.g., we have some large IDIQ contracts with very disparate tasks. Each task is relevant to a particular product. Therefore, we might want to use one task as a PP example for one product and another task on the same contract as PP for another product. OK?

Answer: The choice as to which effort is relevant is left to the offeror.

48. Small Business contracting goals do not work on IDIQ contracts. When queried by the Gov't why a Prime failed to reach those goals, the stock answer is "it's not our fault the Small Businesses on our team couldn't market the tasks". Why not insist on established "floors" (percentages) unless there is a penalty, imposed or implied, a successful Prime cannot be held to the goals. Accordingly can the contract stipulate that if goals are not met the Prime cannot bid on subsequent work?

Answer: It is our intent to monitor the accomplishment of small business goals and use it as a basis for determining future task order awards.

49. To what extent must Small companies comply with programs/ requirement like earned value which most Small companies do not do?

Answer: Earned Value Management is not dependent on small or large business. It is dependent upon the task order effort.

50. What is the OCI clause? Can it be posted on the web?

Answer: There is no OCI clause as a part of the basic IDIQ contract.

51. Are companies who are currently in a STRICOM SETA team in any way restricted from participating in the STRICOM Omnibus Procurement?

Answer: Not for the Base contract awards. They may be excluded in the future on task orders where they have specific involvement under the SETA contract.

52. How do Federally Funded Research Development Center (FFRDC) fit into your concept? Team Member, partnership Agreements, other.

Answer: Per the FAR 35.017-1(c)(4), an FFRDC cannot compete against a non-FFRDC concerns on an RFP. This prohibition is not required to be applied to any parent organization or other subsidiary of the parent organization in its non-FFRDC operations.